(b) the details of each of infrastructural, technological, scientific and other facilities proposed to be provided to NIO along with their estimated cost?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has been continuously supporting the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa a constituent laboratory of the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) for up-gradation of their infrastructural, technological and scientific facilities. A major facility to acquire a new Oceanographic Research Vessel at an estimated cost of about Rs 190 crore has already been approved. Besides this, support through various projects is also proposed to be provided under the Eleventh Plan for creation of lab space, scientific equipments and facilities.

Performance of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

†2217. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that performance of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research is on the decline day by day and its laboratories are suffering from shortage of talented scientists;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to bring about extensive changes in CSIR; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL); (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) CSIR as a pro-active organization has always been reviewing its policies and objectives in order to align them with the changes in internal and external setting. Efforts are being made to empower CSIR so as to deepen public-private partnerships in its.laboratories.

†Orignai notice of the questions was recived in Hindi